

Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2574

INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMCONSUL ZAGREB

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E.O. 11652 N/A

TAGS: PFOR, YO, UR

SUBJECT: BIJEDIC RETURN FROM USSR; MOJSOV ON VISIT

1. APRIL 15 BIJEDIC STATEMENT AT BELGRADE AIRPORT ON RETURN FROM USSR WAS MARKED BY A CERTAIN LACK OF ENTHUSIASM ABOUT RESULTS OF THE VISIT. EXCHANGE OF VIEWS WITH RUSSIAN LEADERS ON INTERNATIONAL SITUATION, SAID BIJEDIC, DEMONSTRATED "CONSIDERABLE SIMILARITY, COMPATIBILITY, OR IDENTITY OF VIEWS". AFTER NOTING ECONOMIC AGREEMENTS CONCLUDED DURING THE TALKS HE CONCLUDED, "ON THE WHOLE I CAN SAY THAT OUR VISIT WAS SUCCESSFUL" AND NOTED ITS CONTRIBUTION TO DEVELOPMENT OF MUTUAL RELATIONS "ON THE BASIS OF WELL-KNOWN AND JOINTLY-ADOPTED PRINCIPLES."

2. PHRASING IN BIJEDIC STATEMENT INDICATES TO US THAT RESULTS OF POLITICAL TALKS WERE NOT ENTIRELY SATISFACTORY FROM THE YUGOSLAV POINT OF VIEW. THIS ASSESSMENT IS BORNE OUT BY RECENT PRESS COMMENTARY HERE NOTING "FRANK" DISCUSSIONS AND ALSO BY NOTABLE BLUNTNES OF SOME OF TOP YUGOSLAV LEADERSHIP IN ASSESSING RECENT SOVIET ACTIONS AND INTENTIONS.

3. LAZAR MOJSOV, DEPUTY FORSEC WHO ACCOMPANIED BIJEDIC, TALKED

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WITH AMBASSADOR APR 15 ABOUT TRIP. HE TALKED FREELY WITH SOVIET

LEADERSHIP ABOUT RECENT COMINFORMIST AFFAIR, MOJSOV SAID. HE AGREED THAT PRESENT SOVIET LEADERSHIP HAD SUPPORTED EFFORTS TO UNDERMINE YUGOSLAVIA BUT EXPRESSED BELIEF SOVIETS WOULD NOT SOON TRY THIS AGAIN.

4. RE OTHER MATTERS DISCUSSED IN MOSCOW, MOJSOV FOUND SOVIET LEADERS STILL IRRITATED AT US TRADE RESTRICTIONS. CEILING ON EXPORT-IMPORT BANK CREDITS ANNOYED KOSYGIN MUCH MORE THAN JACKSON-VANIK AMENDMENT, HE SAID, NOTING KOSYGIN WAS INDIGNANT AT THOUGHT OF \$300 MILLION LIMIT FOR COUNTRY WITH USSR'S RICHES AND POTENTIAL.

5. TURNING TO SOUTH-EAST ASIA, HE EXPRESSED VIEW THESE COUNTRIES WOULD DEVELOP WITHOUT EXCESSIVE SOVIET OR CHINESE INFLUENCE. SIHANOUK AND KHMER ROUGE WOULD PROTECT CAMBODIAN INTEREST AGAINST ALL COMERS, HE SAID, BUT CONCEDED SIHANOUK MIGHT WELL PLAY FIGUREHEAD ROLE. HE SAW FIERCELY INDEPENDENT VIETNAM, UNITED UNDER HANOI, AS ANOTHER POTENTIAL YUGOSLAVIA, PLAYING CONSTRUCTIVE ROLE IN ASIA. THE US SHOULD, IN TIME, BE ABLE TO DEVELOP GOOD RELATIONS WITH THESE NEW GOVERNMENTS.
TOON

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